

In re Appln. of Holub  
Application No. 10/626,135

CLAIM LISTING

1. (Currently Amended) A ground stake comprising:  
a shaft defining a shaft axis, the shaft further comprising a penetration end shaped to facilitate forcing of the shaft into soil, and a driving end for driving the shaft into soil, and a midpoint half way between the penetration end and the driving end;  
an attachment portion adapted to securely fasten an object to the stake;  
a short vane depending outward from the shaft axis, with a majority of the short vane situated between the penetration end and the midpoint, the short vane defining a backfill space between the short vane and the shaft axis; and  
wherein the short vane is effective in substantially resisting the removal of the shaft from soil into which it has been driven.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the short vane is shaped so as to provide less resistance to driving the shaft into soil than the resistance to the removal of the shaft from soil.
3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the short vane lies in a plane parallel to the shaft axis.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the short vane lies in the same plane as the shaft axis.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the short vane comprises an insertion leading edge and an extraction leading edge.
6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein:  
the insertion leading edge defines an insertion angle of attack;  
the extraction leading edge defines an extraction angle of attack that is less than ninety degrees; and

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wherein the insertion angle of attack is less than the extraction angle of attack.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the shaft comprises a wire rod.
8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the short vane comprises a shaped wire rod.
9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the shaft and the short vane are made from a single shaped wire rod.
10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising at least one long vane having a short vane portion.
11. (Currently Amended) A ground stake comprising:
  - a shaft defining a shaft axis, the shaft further comprising a penetration end shaped to facilitate forcing of the shaft into soil and a driving end for driving the shaft into soil;
  - an attachment portion adapted to securely fasten an object to the stake;
  - a short vane depending outward from the shaft axis, wherein the short vane comprises an insertion leading edge and an extraction leading edge and wherein:
    - the insertion leading edge defines an insertion angle of attack;
    - the extraction leading edge defines an extraction angle of attack that is less than ninety degrees; and
  - wherein the insertion angle of attack is less than the extraction angle of attack; and
  - wherein the short vane is effective in substantially resisting the removal of the shaft from soil into which it has been driven.
12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the shaft comprises a wire rod.

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13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the short vane comprises a shaped wire rod.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the shaft and the short vane are made from a single shaped wire rod.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said short vane is made from sheet metal.

16. (New Claim) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein substantially all of the short vane is situated between the penetration end and the midpoint.

17. (New Claim) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein all of the short vane is situated between the penetration end and the midpoint.